

REPORT

ON

NATIVE PAPERS

FOR THE

Week ending the 21st May 1887.

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LIST OF NEWSPAPERS.

No.	Names of newspapers.	Place of publication.	Reported number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.
ASSAMESE.				
<i>Monthly.</i>				
1	"Assam Vilásini"	Sibsagar ...	.....
2	"Assam News"	Ditto ...	450	
BENGALI.				
<i>Monthly.</i>				
3	"Ahammadi"	Tangail, Mymensingh..	.....
4	"Kasipore Nibási"	Kasipore, Burrisal ...	.....
<i>Fortnightly.</i>				
5	"Ave Maria"	Calcutta ...	.....
6	"Purva Darpan"	Chittagong ...	700	
7	"Silchar"	Silchar, Assam ...	.....
<i>Weekly.</i>				
8	"Arya Darpan"	Calcutta ...	102	13th May 1887.
9	"Arya Pratibhá"	Halishahar ...	.....
10	"Bangabási"	Calcutta ...	20,000	14th ditto.
11	"Bhāratbási"	Ditto ...	3,000	7th ditto.
12	"Bhārat Mihir"	Ditto ...	2,500	
13	"Burdwān Sanjivani"	Burdwan ...	302	10th ditto.
14	"Chāruvartá"	Sherepore, Mymensingh	500	9th ditto.
15	"Dacca Prakash"	Dacca ...	450	15th ditto.
16	"Dhumaketu"	Chandernagore ...	.....	13th ditto.
17	"Education Gazette"	Hooghly ...	825	13th ditto.
18	"Garib and Mahavidya"	Dacca ...	.....	11th ditto.
19	"Grambási"	Uluberia ...	.....	14th ditto.
20	"Hindu Ranjiká"	Beauleah, Rajshahye...	200	
21	"Murshidábád Patriká"	Berhampore ...	508	
22	"Murshidábád Pratinidhi"	Ditto ...	.....
23	"Nava Mediní"	Midnapore ...	.....
24	"Navavibhakar Sādhāraní"	Calcutta ...	1,000	16th ditto.

No.	Names of newspapers.	Place of publication.	Reported number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.
BENGALI—concluded.				
<i>Weekly—concluded.</i>				
25	"Paridarshak"	Sylhet ...	450	7th May 1887.
26	"Prajā Bandhu"	Chandernagore ...	995	
27	"Pratikār"	Berhampore ...	600	13th ditto.
28	"Pūrva Bangabāsī"	Noakholly ...	.....	8th ditto.
29	"Rungpore Dik Prakāsh"	Kakiniā, Rungpore ...	205	12th ditto.
30	"Sahachar"	Calcutta ...	500	11th ditto.
31	"Samaya"	Ditto ...	2,350	13th ditto.
32	"Sanjivani"	Ditto ...	4,000	14th ditto.
33	"Sansodhini"	Chittagong ...	800	
34	"Sāraswat Patra"	Dacca ...	400	
35	"Som Prakāsh"	Changripottā, 24-Perghs. ...	1,000	16th ditto.
36	"Śrīmanta Saudagār"	Calcutta ...	.....
37	"Sulabha Samāchār and Kusadaha"	Ditto ...	3,000	
38	"Surabhi and Patākā"	Ditto ...	700	12th ditto.
<i>Daily.</i>				
39	"Dainik"	Calcutta ...	7,000	15th to 19th May 1887.
40	"Samvād Prabhākar"	Ditto ...	200	12th to 17th ditto.
41	"Samvād Purnachandrodaya"	Ditto ...	300	13th to 19th ditto.
42	"Samachār Chandrikā"	Ditto ...	625	
43	"Banga Vidyā Prakāshikā"	Ditto ...	500	
ENGLISH AND BENGALI.				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
44	"Dacca Gazette"	Dacca ...	.....	16th May 1887.
HINDI.				
<i>Monthly.</i>				
45	"Kshatriya Pratikā"	Patna ...	.....
<i>Weekly.</i>				
46	"Aryāvarta"	Calcutta ...	.....
47	"Behar Bandhu"	Bankipore ...	.....
48	"Bhārat Mitra"	Calcutta ...	1,500	5th and 12th May 1887.
49	"Sār Sudhānidhi"	Ditto ...	500	2nd and 9th ditto.
50	"Uchit Baktā"	Ditto ...	4,500	
51	"Hindi Samāchār"	Bhagulpore ...	1,000	
PERSIAN.				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
52	"Jām-Jahān-numā"	Calcutta ...	250	13th May 1887.
URDU.				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
53	"Gauhur"	Calcutta ...	196	
54	"Sharaf-ul-Akhbar"	Behar ...	150	
55	"Al Punch"	Bankipore ...	.....	16th ditto.
<i>Bi-weekly.</i>				
56	"Akhbar-i-darusaltanat"	Calcutta ...	340	
<i>Daily.</i>				
57	"Urdu Guide"	Calcutta ...	212	13th to 19th May 1887.
URIA.				
<i>Monthly.</i>				
58	"Taraka and Subhavartā"	Cuttack ...	.....
59	"Pradip"	Ditto ...	.....
<i>Weekly.</i>				
60	"Utkal Dīpikā"	Cuttack ...	200	30th April 1887.
61	"Balasore Samvad Vāhika"	Balasore ...	205	28th May 1887.
62	"Sanskarak"	Cuttack ...	200	5th ditto.
63	"Navasamvād"	Ditto ...	.....	5th ditto.

I.—FOREIGN POLITICS.

The *Sár Sudhánidhi*, of the 2nd May, says that the rebellion in Afghanistan has placed the English Government in great difficulties. There is the apprehension that the Afghans may turn the arms which the Government has already supplied to them against itself, and they will do the same thing if the supply of arms is discontinued. The writer waits to see what policy Lord Dufferin adopts under these circumstances.

SAR SUDHANIDHI,
May 2nd, 1887.

2. The *Bháratbási*, of the 7th May, is disposed to think that it would have been better not to have circulated, at the present crisis in Afghan affairs, the news of Dhuleep Singh's arrival in Russia. Such news is sure to work mischief at the present moment. The Government might have easily averted all danger from the direction of Dhuleep, and the vernacular press at one time pointed out how that difficulty could be got over. The Anglo-Indian newspapers, and sometimes the Government, too, are of opinion that the native press is always in the wrong. A little reflection will now show who are right.

BHARATBASI,
May 7th, 1887.

3. The *Charu Vártá*, of the 9th May, thinks that it is unnecessary to subsidise the Amir of Afghanistan any longer; and it should henceforward be the duty of Englishmen to concern themselves solely about the happiness of the people of India. But the movements of Dhuleep Singh should be carefully watched. The people of India view with alarm the present state of affairs in Cabul, and Dhuleep Singh's friendship with Russia.

CHARU VAKTA,
May 9th, 1887.

4. The *Burdwan Sanjivani*, of the 10th May, says that, if Russia mixes herself in the present affairs of Afghanistan, the effect will be to entail loss of men and money on India. It is true that India can supply any number of troops to Government; but it is equally true that her purse is well nigh emptied. It is for this reason that whenever any question of war, involving the question of expenditure of money, arises, the people of this country feel alarmed. Lord Dufferin is an experienced politician, and it is for him to devise means for keeping India away from the whirlpool of Afghan affairs.

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,
May, 10th 1887.

5. The *Samaya*, of the 13th, May suspects the present Amir of Afghanistan of harbouring treacherous designs against the English. It is at a loss to understand why the Amir has not hitherto made use of the money and arms he has received from the English for the purpose of subduing the rebels. Russia is again advancing towards India. She has from the first rejected the recommendations of the Boundary Commission. It is probable that her soldiers will shortly appear on the northern frontier of India. That she is somehow or other connected with the present troubles in Afghanistan is almost certain. The Government of India will do well to garrison the northern frontier of the empire. English soldiers should also march into Afghanistan in order to put down the rebellion in that country.

SAMAYA,
May 13th, 1887.

6. The same paper has learnt that the Amir of Afghanistan does not use the money which he yearly receives from the English for the purpose of defending his country. He hoards all that money not for the benefit of his people, but for his own private purposes. Thus all the money which the English Government is giving him from the revenues of India is like so much ghee poured into fire.

SAMAYA.

SANJIVANI,
May 14th, 1887

7. The *Sanjivani*, of the 14th May, referring to the present troubles in Afghanistan, says that the course which the Government of India should adopt in the

Troubles in Afghanistan.

present crisis is not very clear. It is bound by treaty to help the Amir. But if the Ghilzai rebellion is put down with the assistance of the English, will not the Ghilzais seek an opportunity and avail themselves of it to be avenged against the English? To secure the friendship of the Amir is not the same thing as securing the friendship of the Afghan people. It is not true that because Amir Abdur Rahman is a friend of the English, therefore the whole Afghan people are also their friends. And if the people of Afghanistan therefore assist Russia in carrying out her designs against the English, what will Amir Abdur Rahman with his handful of troops do for the English? And yet immense sums of money are being spent every year in order to secure the friendship of this Amir. It will not also be a matter for wonder if the people of Afghanistan regard with suspicion the manner in which the English are making their entrance into their country. It is thus clear that the means which the English are adopting in order to ward off a Russian invasion of India will be of no avail now or hereafter. In the meantime the immense expenditure of money which is being made in this direction has already had the effect of impoverishing the people of India.

DACCA PRAKASH,
May 15th, 1887.

8. The *Dacca Prakash*, of the 15th May, says that, according to

Russia and India.

Reuter, if the Amir of Afghanistan suffers defeat at the hands of the Ghilzais, England

and Russia will jointly set up a new Amir in his place. Nothing can be more advantageous to Russia than this. And who shall say what the outcome of such a policy will be? Maharajah Dhuleep Singh's presence in Russia also means dangers to the Indian dominions of England. Russia may think that the presence of the son of Runjeet Singh in her army will rouse the Sikhs to rebellion, and she may thus be tempted to invade India on some trifling pretext. But England herself has courted this danger. Her Indian policy has impoverished India and emasculated its people. But there is time yet. By enabling the native races to become stronger and hardier, she may yet provide effectually against Russian invasion. Government ought to be on its guard.

NAVAVIBHAKAR
SADHARANI,
May 16th, 1887.

9. The *Navavibhakar Sadharani*, of the 16th May, says that,

Dhuleep Singh.

moulded as he has been by the English, there is little chance that Dhuleep Singh will be

able to do any great deed, good or bad. Brought up as he has been in the lap of luxury, he is not the man to put his hand to any great undertaking. Love for his country has been excited in his breast only because his feelings have been wounded, and he feels the pangs of poverty. But the fact that the wound he has received in his heart has made him restless makes it clear that no danger need be apprehended from him. The man who is capable of great things is well able to conceal the wounds of his heart.

II.—HOME ADMINISTRATION.

(a).—Police.

SAR SUDHANIDHI,
May 2nd, 1887.

10. The *Sar Sudhanidhi*, of the 2nd May, complains that, while the police does nothing to stop fraudulent auction sales in Calcutta, it apprehends those licensed

The police and hawkers.

hawkers who assemble near Monuhur Das's *chuk* at Barabazar. It is understood that hawkers have no shops, and that they must keep their goods in the streets. Why are they then apprehended by the police?

11. The *Gramvási*, of the 14th May, asks Government to introduce reforms into the police administration of this country. That the police is at present armed with unlimited powers, that its administration is generally entrusted to ignorant and inefficient hands, that its officers are too prone to remunerate themselves by illegal means, and that it aids and abets the commission of crimes, are facts which loudly call for a thorough and speedy police reform.

GRAMVASI,
May 14th, 1887.

12. A correspondent of the *Bangabási*, of the 14th May, complains that a number of young men belonging to respectable families in the suburbs of Calcutta have formed themselves into a gang of roughs and are disturbing the people of the locality. The police is taking no steps to check them. The other day they created a riot at the *Barawaritola*, and assaulted a man so severely that he is now in a precarious state. The Deputy Commissioner of Police, Calcutta, should look to the matter.

BANGABASI,
May 14th, 1887.

13. The *Dainik*, of the 18th May referring to Mr. Pincott's enquiries about the police administration in India, says that the Indian police is armed with dangerous authority, which enables it to easily subject to oppression any man, however innocent. All respectable people abhor the police. The Magistrates of districts are the chief supporters of the police, and police oppression will not cease so long as the police continues to be supported by the Magistracy, and so long as Magistrates perform judicial functions. The police administration remains as bad as ever, although the police is now and then rebuked by the higher judicial authorities, and its officers are punished for misconduct. So long as the policy of Government remains a policy of terrorism, it will be difficult to place any effectual barrier against police oppression. The real reason why the police in this country is disliked by the civil population is that the police is in the habit of instituting false cases, and putting inoffensive men into trouble whenever it fails to detect the real offenders.

DAINIK,
May 18th, 1887.

(b).—*Working of the Courts.*

14. The *Bhāratbási*, of the 7th May, says that the charges brought against Baboo Gouri Sankar Biswas, Deputy Magistrate of Nowgaon, are serious, and, if true, demand his removal from the public service. Such a man is utterly unfit to hold any responsible post. The Government, it is hoped, will look into the matter.

BHARATBASÍ,
May 7th, 1887.

15. The *Charu Vártá*, of the 9th May, says that numerous complaints have been made against Moulvie Fuzlul Karim, Deputy Magistrate of Netrokona. The affidavit made by the constable Jogesur in the presence of the Magistrate contains charges which one will feel ashamed even to read. It is a matter of regret that such serious charges should be brought against a Sub-divisional Officer.

CHARU VARTA,
May 9th, 1887.

16. The same paper says that the numbers of suits in the Civil Courts of Tangail is daily increasing. It is said that 2,000 cases are pending this year. An additional Munsif should be appointed there.

CHARU VARTA.

(c).—*Jails.*

17. The *Samaya*, of the 13th May, says that imprisonment in dark rooms, spare diet and whipping are still resorted to in the jails of this country in order

SAMAYA,
May 13th, 1887.

to punish convicts even for comparatively trifling offences. The rigour of jail administration has decidedly tended to increase of late years. Prisoners are made to live on food more coarse and more abominable, if possible, than what was given to them some time ago. Sir Steuart Bayley should look to the matter.

DAINIK,
May 18th, 1887.

18. The *Dainik*, of the 18th May, says that, amongst the prisoners released on the occasion of the Jubilee, there were some who were punished both with imprisonment and with fine. The fines not having been yet paid, English lawyers say that they should be recovered by attaching the properties of the defaulters. The defects of the English law are traceable to the inherent defects of the English intellect, which make it move in tortuous lines. The English people will sacrifice religion and benevolence on the altar of their law.

(d).—Education.

PARIDARSHAK,
May 7th, 1887.

19. The *Paridarshak*, of the 7th May, says that Mr. C. B. Clarke served for a long time in India as Inspector of Schools. He had always excellent opportunities for making himself acquainted with the manners and customs of its inhabitants. And yet in reply to the applications of the Muhammadans of Silchar for a grant-in-aid to their hostel, he made the ridiculous statement that they deserved no encouragement if they were so narrow-minded as not to be able to lodge in the hostel for Hindus. Mr. Clarke even knew not that Hindus and Mussulmans could not lodge together!

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,
May 10th, 1887.

20. The *Burdwan Sanjivani*, of the 10th May, would correct itself by saying that the head pundit of Kanchannagar is not a circle pundit in the strictest sense of the word. He only teaches the pundits of five pathsalas on a monthly salary of Rs. 5.

BURDWAN SANJIVANI.

21. The same paper says that Burdwan has no circle pundits, and the inspection of pathsalas in this district is entrusted to certain chief gurus. These gurus naturally feel interested in the pathsalas under their supervision, and it was therefore wrong of Peary Baboo to have appointed a chief guru to hold the examination.

SAMVAD PRABHAKAR,
May 12th, 1887.

22. The *Samvād Prabhākar*, of the 12th May, hopes that Sir Alfred Croft's education report showing the extent to which the recommendations of the Education Commission have been carried into effect, and the resolution of the Government of India on that report, will be published in the Government Gazette. The public are anxious to know how far the recommendations of the Education Commission have been given effect to.

SAMAYA,
May 13th, 1887.

23. The *Samaya*, of the 13th May, says that, unlike the Universities of Europe, which are model institutions of learning, the Calcutta University is only an examining body. It does not impart instruction to either teachers or scholars, and it cannot on that account exercise any influence on the education of the country. The educational career of most of the students of the Indian Colleges ends with their passing the highest examinations of the University. It is therefore necessary that the Calcutta University should have some functions assigned to it similar to those possessed by Universities in Europe. The manner in which text-books are selected by the University for its examinations is also objectionable. The influential members of the Senate can easily get the books written either by themselves or by their friends selected as text-books for the University examinations. Examiners are also selected on the same principle. A man

is sure to be made an Examiner if he can only secure a certain number of votes, his disqualification for the work, if any, not standing in the way. For the last three or four years errors have been discovered in the question papers, but the marks allotted to the questions containing errors have not been deducted from the total number of marks. Plucked candidates are not allowed to know in what subject they fail and for how many marks. The annual reports of the University are again a sealed book to the public. The graduates of the University have no right of speech in the meetings of the Senate. They should have that right.

SANJIVANI,
May 14th, 1887.

The Calcutta Sanskrit College.

24. The *Sanjivani*, of the 14th May, says that Pundit Mahesa Chandra Nayaratna, though one of the most well-read students of Hindu logic in Bengal, is inferior in point of learning to the former Principals of the Sanskrit College. It is doubtful whether the college would have been brought to its present low condition if an abler man than Pandit Nayaratna had been at its head. During Mr. Cowell's Principalship, the professorships in the college were filled by some of the best men in the country; and the difference between the present staff of the college and its staff in Mr. Cowell's time is about as great as the difference between night and day. The college can at present hardly turn out such men as Ram Kamal, Krishna Kamal, Nilamvara, Nilmani and others. The few students of the college who have distinguished themselves of late years were generally men who graduated in other colleges, and only took their M. A. degree from this college. The good name of the college did not also suffer during the principalship of the late Babu Prasanna Kumar Sarvadhikari, and the reason is that he made no change in the old staff of professors. Baboo Prasanna Kumar himself was also eminently fit for his post. Both Mr. Cowell and Baboo Prasanna Kumar had at heart and laboured hard to maintain the prestige of the college, and did not care for their own advancement. But nothing of this kind marks the course which Pundit Mahesa Chandra has adopted for himself. The pundit is concerned only about his own name and fame, and cares very little for the prestige or prosperity of the college. If instead of devoting himself to the worship of Sir Ashley Eden, or lending himself to the service of Sir Rivers Thompson, the pundit had busied himself about filling up vacancies in his college with really able men, the condition of that institution would probably not now have been so low. The pundit's unwillingness to bring really competent men into the college probably proceeds from his anxiety about his own reputation, which might suffer in comparison with a superior reputation. It is true that men like the late Jayanarayan Torkapunchanon, and Taranath Tarkavachaspati are now rare in this country; still it is not impossible to get a few men of superior attainments to those who are now engaged as professors in the Sanskrit College, and some men abler even than its present Principal. The college might still be put on a satisfactory footing by employing in it men like Chandra Kant Nyayalankar of the Dacca College, Prasanna Chandra Tarkaratna of Vikrampore, and Yadavesvara Tarkaratna of Rungpore. Let Pundit Nayaratana pension off the old opium-eating pundits of the college and appoint better men in their places. But considering that he is never very mindful of the interests of his subordinates, it is doubtful whether really able men will accept service under him. Pundits will flock into the college if only they find its Principal bent upon promoting its interests, and with the accession of learned pundits the number of good scholars will increase.

25. The same paper asks Government to make very strict rules with the view of securing the attendance of girls of respectable families in the class for

SANJIVANI.

A class for female students in the Campbell Medical School.

female students to be shortly opened in the Campbell Medical School. When the class for Midwifery was first opened in the Medical College, many respectable ladies went there to read. But with the admission of women of bad repute into the class, respectable ladies ceased to attend it. The same fate will overtake the proposed class in the Campbell Medical School if the admission rules are not made sufficiently strict to ensure the exclusion of women of ill-repute. It is also necessary that the teachers of that class should be men of unexceptionable character, possessed of deep sympathy in the cause of female education and advancement, and entertaining a profound regard for the female character. Men otherwise qualified, but wanting in these characteristics, should not be appointed as teachers for this class. That all the present teachers of the Campbell School are not fit to teach the proposed class is certain. Some of them are decidedly opposed to female education, and some hate female licentiates in medicine.

DAINIK,
May 16th, 1887.

26. A correspondent of the *Dainik*, of the 16th May, draws attention to the list of text-books issued in the Eastern Bengal Circle for the ensuing year. Text-books in arithmetic should have been specifically named. Alternative books should also have been mentioned by name, as otherwise bad books will find their way into schools. There should have been fixed text-books in geography for the lower classes, as geography learnt from maps cannot be got by heart. Text-books in grammar should also have been fixed. The substitution of Baboo Bharat Chandra Banerjee's "Swasthya Siksha" in the place of Dr. Jadunath Mukerjee's "Sarir Palan" has been a great mistake. Whoever reads Bharat Chandra's book will admit that "Swasthya Kusiksha" would have been its most appropriate name, because it teaches wrong hygienic principles. The language of the book is also faulty, and full of grammatical errors. The author has in certain passages reviled his countrymen and advised them to adopt European modes of living. It is difficult to imagine why the authorities have selected such a book for use in schools. Dr. Jadunath's book has been approved by the Government, and is popular everywhere. Such a book should not have been set aside in favour of a decidedly bad and inferior work. The Director of Public Instruction should look to the matter.

NAVAVIBHAKAR
SADHARANI,
May 16th, 1887.

27. The *Navaribhakar Sadharani*, of the 16th May, says that there is no probability of the Sanskrit College making further progress in the present state of Hindu Society. Sanskrit education is not now prized by Hindus, because it does not pay. It is wrong, therefore, to attribute the decline of Sanskrit culture to the decline of the Sanskrit College. Pundit Mahesa Chandra Nayaratna is not to any considerable extent responsible for the inferior quality of the present staff of professors in his College. He is, however, to blame in so far as he discourages teachers by stopping their promotion on the strength of complaints made against them by his students, and by putting over their heads those outsiders whom he wishes to oblige in true *Brahman-pandit fashion*. Pundits Taranath Tarkavachaspati and Girish Chandra Vidyaratna rose from low teacherships to the highest professorships. But under Pundit Mahesa Chandra such advancement is impossible; and the College will not fare well so long as the old system of promoting professors is not reverted to. Pundit Mahesa Chandra should wipe away the reproach that clings to his name by restoring the old system. But whatever Pundit Mahesa Chandra may do, it is clear that the College will not improve unless it is reconstituted.

(c)—*Local Self-Government and Municipal Administration.*

28. The *Bhāratbāsi*, of the 7th May, is sorry that Baboo Norendra Nath Sen's proposal regarding the appointment of a Committee to enquire into the

BHARATBASI,
May 7th, 1887.

The Calcutta Municipality.

circumstances connected with the dismissal of Benode Chandra Das, late treasurer of the Calcutta Municipality, was rejected. There could possibly be no harm in dismissing Benode Baboo after making a thorough enquiry. It appears that the *apke waste* party among the Commissioners is again gaining ascendancy: that is why so good a proposal was rejected. In spite of the strong opposition of most of the leading Commissioners, the son-in-law of Maharaja Sir Jotendra Mohan Tagore was appointed treasurer in Benode Baboo's place. The Maharaja's son-in-law was the least qualified of all the candidates for the appointment; and it is easy to understand why the claims of the other have been overlooked.

29. The same paper does not see why some of the papers should object to give Mr. Cotton the full salary of the Chairmanship of the Calcutta Municipality.

BHARATBASI.

Mr. Cotton's pay.

It is said that Mr. Cotton is a new man, and he should not be therefore allowed to draw the full pay of the post. But Mr. Cotton is not new to the Calcutta Municipality. His predecessors in office knew very much less about that municipality when they were appointed to its Chairmanship than Mr. Cotton knows. In fact, his predecessors were all new men, whilst his own connection with the municipality extends over two years. It should be also borne in mind that the municipality got his services free of charge on the Commission appointed under section 28, and that it is bound by gratitude to give him the full pay of the post on this occasion.

30. The Ghoramara correspondent of the *Rungpore Dikprakash*, of the 12th May, complains of the conduct of the ferrymen in that part of the district.

RUNGPORE DIK
PRAKASH,
May 12th, 1887.

Ferrymen at Ghoramara in Rungpore.

In many of the ferries no boards showing the ferry rates are kept for public reference; and the ferrymen are therefore enabled to demand anything they like. Some parts of the river become dry in summer, and people are made to pay tolls, although they walk across the dry bed of the river. Even at the Ghoramara ferry there are no fixed rules for collecting ferry rates. The authorities will do well to send some honest police officer *in cognito* to enquire into these matters. But where to get an honest police officer?

31. The *Surabhi and Patākā*, of the 12th May, says that the policy of Local Self-Government is now passing through a severe ordeal. On the one hand

SURABHI & PATAKA,
May 12th, 1887.

Local Self-Government in Calcutta and the Suburbs.

the officers of Government are bent upon exercising absolute power; on the other the Commissioners are aspiring to achieve a reputation for independence. The friends of the policy of Local Self-Government ought therefore to be on their guard. In the discussion which lately took place at a meeting of the Calcutta Municipality on the question of appointing a treasurer, Sir Henry Harrison, the Chairman, so far forgot himself as to state publicly that he attached no importance to the public opinion of all India. This from the head of the institution which was constituted under the Local Self-Government law, and which is the highest institution of its kind in this country, is really shocking. In the Suburban Municipality the Commissioners are quarrelling with their Chairman; and it is a matter for rejoicing that the Commissioners have passed a vote of censure on their Chairman.

32. The *Samaya*, of the 13th May, strongly condemns Mr. Forbes for his disrespectful behaviour towards the learned Commissioners of the Suburban

SAMAYA,
May 13th 1887.

Mr. Forbes of the Suburban Municipality.

Municipality. It is not known whether Mr. Forbes has anything to say in Justification of his conduct. It appears, however, from his statement, that the public will do him justice, and that he has something to say in his own favour. But the public will hold him guilty and blame him so long as he does not fully clear himself before them. Government ought to demand from him an explanation of his conduct in this matter, and to declare him ineligible for the charge of a district in future. The Commissioners of the Suburban Municipality deserve thanks for the independence and earnestness they have displayed in their quarrel with Mr. Forbes.

SANJIVANI,
May 14th, 1887.

33. A correspondent of the *Sanjivani*, of the 14th May, has heard unsatisfactory reports regarding the municipal administration of Comillah, and it is

The Comillah Municipality.

stated that differences of opinion among the Commissioners have brought about this state of things. The municipal meetings are not regularly attended, and the rate-payers are dissatisfied with the Commissioners, whom they believe to be guilty of arbitrariness. But the interests of the scheme of Local Self-Government in this country demand that the Commissioners should learn to trust and respect each other, and thereby remove all those causes which now prevent them from doing their public duties wisely and in a spirit of harmony; and they should not therefore subject their rate-payers to hardship by placing an undue value upon their own opinion in complete disregard of law and justice.

SANJIVANI.

34. The same paper praises the Commissioners of the Suburban Municipality for the manly protest they have made against the unjust action of Mr. Forbes, their Chairman, in the matter of house-service.

The Suburban Municipality and the Calcutta Municipality.

The majority of the Municipal Commissioners of Calcutta are, however, for *apke wasteism*, and there can be no doubt that the Commissioners of the Suburban Municipality know better how to perform public duty than the Commissioners of the Calcutta Municipality.

GRAMVASI,
May 14th, 1887.

35. The *Gramvasi*, of the 14th May, says that the way in which the Local Board of Uluberiah and the Howrah District Board are doing their business is not satisfactory. The members of the District

Local Self-Government in the Uluberiah sub-division.

Board are generally anxious to secure their own interests and to carry out conservancy and other measures only near their own places of residence. They have sanctioned only Rs. 2,000 for work of repairing the roads in the whole of the Uluberiah sub-division—a work for which the people of that sub-division wanted Rs. 10,000. The proposal to construct a road from Bagnon to Syampore has also been abandoned. It is clear that those who represent the sub-division in the Howrah District Board do not know their duty.

SOM PRAKASH,
May 10th, 1887.

36. A correspondent of the *Som Prakash*, of the 10th May, reports two or three deaths from cholera in Ranaghat.

Cholera in Ranaghat.

It is necessary for the municipal authorities to take precautionary measures with a view to prevent the spread of the disease. It is also surprising that there should still exist within the municipal area places which may be called hot-beds of cholera. It is to be hoped that the Vice-Chairman of the Municipality will himself inspect such places.

DACCA GAZETTE,
May 16th, 1887.

37. Referring to the determined stand made by the Commissioners of the South Suburban Municipality against their Chairman, the *Dacca Gazette*, of the 16th May, says that the tree of Local Self-

Local Self-Government and the Suburban Municipality.

Government planted by Lord Ripon has already begun to bear excellent fruit. The enemies of Local Self-Government will now see that the people of this country know how to defend their rights and privileges against

official encroachment. The Commissioners of the Suburban Municipality have conclusively proved the fitness of the people of this country for Local Self-Government.

(g)—*Railways and communications including canals and irrigation.*

38. A correspondent of the *Cháru Vártá*, of the 9th May, complains

The booking clerk of the Balipara station in the Dacca-Mymensingh State Railway.

that the booking-clerk of the Balipara station in the Dacca-Mymensingh State

Railway cheated his servant of one anna and used insulting language when he was asked to make a refund. The booking-clerk even attempted to assault the man in the presence of the station-master, who took no notice of his conduct. The District Superintendent is requested to decide the matter. If he does not, it will be necessary to go to court.

CHARUVARTA,
May 9th, 1887.

39. A correspondent of the *Bangabási*, of the 14th May, complains of the want of good roads in Berasanga,

Roads in thanna Dumuria in Khulna.

Rudaghara, Meghashimuni, Sholekhatia, Chabra, and Madhugram, villages in thanna

Dumuria, in the Khulna district. Considerable difficulty is accordingly felt during the rainy season. The attention of the authorities and of the members of the Road Cess Committee is drawn to the matter.

BANGABASI,
May 14th, 1887.

40. The Meherpore correspondent of the same paper states that the

A dam at the mouth of the Bawot Canal in Nuddea.

indigo planters had constructed a dam at the mouth of the Bawot Canal in the Nuddea district. The indigo-planters having since

sold their factory and gone away, the last year's floods completely destroyed the dam, thereby joining the canal with the Howla river. If the dam is not reconstructed between the months of Jaistha and Sravan, all the paddy in the fields may be destroyed by floods, and four or five hundred villages, or nearly the entire district of Nuddea, may be inundated. The people of the locality are too poor to be able to reconstruct the dam themselves. The authorities should look to the matter.

BANGABASI,

41. The *Dacca Prakash*, of the 15th May, asks Government to extend the Dacca State Railway to Goalundo, as

A railway line from Goalundo to Dacca.

that is the only means by which that railway can be made more profitable. Much delay

takes place in carrying goods by steamer from Goalundo to Dacca, and great expense has also to be incurred in doing so. People therefore prefer sending their goods by boat as of old, and so much traffic is lost to the Dacca State Railway. That railway should therefore be extended to Goalundo. The cost of this extension will not be felt, because it will enable Government to save the expenditure of Rs. 12,000 every year now incurred in working the Dacca line. There are other objections to keeping up the present steamer communication between Goalundo and Dacca. Firstly, Government officers often lose much time by travelling in steamers, and time so lost is so much loss of public money. Secondly, the navigation between Goalundo and Dacca is attended with danger and difficulty. The Postal Department often suffers from this cause. If Government takes into consideration all these, it will probably see the expediency of making the proposed railway extension. If Sir Stuart Bayley's Government consents to construct the line, and notifies to the local zemindars its intention to stand guarantee for the interest on the capital which will be spent in the undertaking, there will be no lack of men willing and ready to supply it with money. If Government executes this work, it should keep the accounts of the proposed line separate from those of the Dacca State Railway.

DACCA PRAKASH.
May 15th, 1887.

SOM PRAKASH,
May 14th, 1887.

42. A correspondent of the *Som Prakásh*, of the 14th May, complains of the miserable condition of the road in Santipore leading from Matiganj to the

river Bhagirathi. The road is full of large pieces of *jhámá* and ordinary bricks which cause great inconvenience to travellers in general, and especially to the women who walk along this road to the river Ganges to bathe. The road was constructed by the local municipality through the agency of contractors. But did the officers of the municipality properly supervise the work when it was completed? The Vice-Chairman of the municipality has been requested to inspect with his own eyes the condition of the road and to subject it to the necessary repairs.

SAR SUDHANIDHI,
May 2nd, 1887.

43. The *Sár Sudhánidhi*, of the 2nd May, referring to the fact that rice is supplied to Marine Service vessels on Indian waters from England, whither it is carried from India, says that this system, which involves three times the expenditure which would have been incurred if the supply had been made direct from India, is not given up by Government because the money is paid by Indians, and English merchants benefit by it.

PARIDARSHAK,
May, 7th 1887.

44. The Habigunge correspondent of the *Paridarshak*, of the 7th May, referring to the rumour, that the Sub-Registrar of Sunamgunge will be transferred to Habigunge, says that the unpopular Sub-Registrar of Sunamgunge ought not to be appointed to officiate for the Sub-Registrar of Habigunge, during the absence of the latter on leave.

BHARATBASI,
May 7th, 1887.

45. The *Bháratbási*, of the 7th May, observes sarcastically that it is a pity that a contemptible native newspaper should publish such scandals about Mr. Beames; and here is a splendid opportunity for teaching the contemptible newspaper a lesson for giving publicity to such false statements. Prosecution is perhaps the best course to adopt. But it is stated that the contemptible newspaper is not afraid of a prosecution, and is fully prepared for it. It is therefore advisable for Mr. Beames to seek the protection of a Court if he is equally prepared. It is not known whether Mr. Beames will make an attempt to vindicate his honour; but the Government should, in the interests of the public service, institute a searching enquiry into the matter without loss of time. If Mr. Beames is found guilty, he ought to be punished. If not, Government should openly contradict the statement published regarding him in the *Amrita Bazar Patrika*. For various reasons misconduct on the part of Civilians is suppressed; and by suppressing their misconduct, Government covers itself with infamy, which is after all a very bad thing. It is hoped that Sir Steuart Bayley will make a sifting enquiry into this matter and publish his views in regard to it in order to preserve unsullied the fair fame of British administration in India.

CHARUVARTA,
May 9th, 1887.

46. The *Cháru Vártá*, of the 9th May, says that Sir Steuart Bayley's reply to the address of the Indian Association is of a very hopeful nature. His Honour has very clearly stated that a change has come over the country. Sir Rivers Thompson made himself unpopular by ignoring this change. The line in which Sir Steuart is working at the outset of his rule gives rise to the expectation that Bengal will enjoy peace and happiness under his administration.

CHARUVARTA.

47. A correspondent of the same paper praises Baboo Sarat Chandra Mukerjee, Inspector of Post Offices, Tangail Division, for promoting deserving subordinates. The writer is, however, sorry to hear that the Baboo has not been placed in permanent charge of that division, and he

requests the Deputy Postmaster-General, Eastern Bengal Circle, to confirm him in his post.

48. The *Burdwan Sanjivani*, of the 10th May, thus notices Lord Dufferin's arguments in favour of the Simla exodus :—

The Simla exodus.

The Viceroy's contention is that the abandonment of Simla would involve the waste of the very large sum of money which has been spent at that place for building purposes. True; but is that a good reason for wasting more money? Again, the removal of the Capital to Poona, as suggested by the Viceroy, will involve a very large expenditure of money, and it is not easy to see how the Governor-General can recommend so large an expenditure in these days of financial difficulty. The Governor-General further contends that the location of the Capital in Calcutta will subject the Government to Bengali influence. But if Bengali influence has so far increased as to alarm a Governor-General, does it not become necessary and expedient for the Government to remain longer in Calcutta than elsewhere, in order that it may be the better able to keep Bengalis in check?

49. The *Sahachar*, of the 11th May, referring to Mr. Pincott's

Mr. Pincott's enquiries regarding India.

enquiries in the *Tribune* newspaper, says that there is no doubt that the police in this

country exercises immense terrorism over the people, and that most men in this country are often found to be very unwilling to inform the police of theft, and other offences, because, when they do so, they are as a rule subjected to a sort of worry and harassment at the hands of the police and in the Law Courts which cannot but be dreaded by peaceful people. The inordinate greed of the police is another thing which prevents it from being so generally useful to the public as it should be. The police takes bribes from both complainants and the persons complained against, and woe unto him who grudges or refuses to fill the pockets of the worshipful officers of the police. It is also true that the police often tortures people with the view of extorting confessions. Regarding Mr. Pincott's enquiry about the acceptance of presents by English officials of Government in this country, it should be stated that the fact that they take presents cannot be denied. Presents are taken chiefly by the Executive and sometimes by the Judicial officers also. The presents often consist of articles of food, and occasionally of gold and silver. Stories have been heard of zemindars having fallen into the bad graces of Magistrates for not giving such presents; and it is related regarding a respectable zemindar in Nuddea that a warrant was issued against him because he did not supply the Magistrate of his district with milk for his tea. In short, the practice of receiving presents still exists amongst officers of Government. The criminal law of the country, by delegating extensive powers to the Magistrate, by making him the lord of his district and by placing the police in direct subordination to him, has made itself responsible for the terrorism which the Magistracy and the police exercise over the people of this country. There is no other country in the world where a system of criminal law, more fearful or more calculated to deprive the people of personal liberty than the criminal law of India, prevails; and the highhandedness of the police can only be put down by altering this criminal law of the country. Mr. Pincott should explain the criminal law of India to the English public with a view to get it changed.

50. Referring to the Finance Committee's recommendation to

The Finance Committee and the Police Department.

abolish the posts of nine Assistant Superintendents of Police, the same paper says that

there can be no harm even if the very office of Assistant Superintendent of

BURDWAN SANJIVANI
May 10th, 1887.

SAHACHAR,
May 11th, 1887.

SAHACHAR.

Police is abolished. Natives should also be appointed to the post of District Superintendents of Police on a reduced salary, if necessary.

SABACHAR.
May 11th, 1887.

51. The same paper thanks Sir Steuart Bayley for appointing Mr. K. G. Gupta as Acting Junior Secretary, Board of Revenue. Mr. K. G. Gupta as Officiating Junior Secretary to the Board of Revenue.

SURABHI & PATAKA,
May 12th, 1887.

51a. The *Surabhi and Patáka*, of the 12th May, says that by appointing Mr. K. G. Gupta as Junior Secretary to the Board of Revenue, Sir Steuart Bayley has

raised himself in the estimation of the people. No Bengali had ever before been appointed to that post. It now remains for Sir Steuart to reappoint Bengalis to the Under-Secretaryship in the Bengal Office which they had long enjoyed and from which they were excluded during the last administration.

SAMVAD PRABHAKAR,
May 12th, 1887.

52. The *Samvád Prabhákar*, of the 12th May, asks the Government of India to publish reports for the different departments of the administration throughout India, in order that the changes in any department in all the Presidencies may be easily ascertained.

SAMAYA,
May 13th, 1887.

53. The *Samaya*, of the 13th May, asks Government to raise the salt duty and the export duty on rice. With the revenue increased in this way it will be possible to do away with the obnoxious income-tax, which has become a source of oppression to the public in general. The oppression which the assessors of that tax are committing in the mofussil has assumed a very serious respect.

SAMAYA.

54. The same paper praises the independence and liberal-mindedness of Sir Steuart Bayley in appointing Mr. K. G. Gupta as Junior Secretary to the Board of Revenue. This is the first time that a native of this country has been appointed to that post.

SAMAYA.

55. The same paper, referring to the order of the Collector of Rajshahye summoning the young Rani of Putea to his Court for the purpose of ascertaining whether or no she would be fit to manage her own affairs, asks cannot the Collector leave his cutcherry for a while to pay a visit to the Rani? Is respect for rank unknown in British India? Sir Steuart Bayley should look to the matter.

SAMAYA.

56. The same paper objects to Mr. Beames' sitting as a judge upon the question of the Burdwan adoption. Mr. Beames knows many of the secrets of the Raj family of Burdwan, and he may be easily biassed in favour of the son of Banbehari.

SAMAYA.

57. The same paper refers to Sir Rivers Thompson's order that all old and useless court papers, as set forth in a list to be prepared for the purpose by the Board of Revenue, should be burnt, says that an officer should be appointed whose duty it will be to see that no papers except those which are found mentioned in the Board's list are thus destroyed. The recommendation of the Amlah Commission that notices should be considered as served after the expiration of six weeks' time from the date of their registration in the post office is objectionable; for registered covers do sometimes miscarry and are often delivered late. It would be therefore right to reckon the six weeks from the date on which the acknowledgment of the registered cover by the person to whom it is addressed is received in Court.

SANJIVANI
May 14th, 1887.

58. The *Sanjivani*, of the 14th May, praises Sir Steuart Bayley for appointing Baboo K. G. Gupta, Officiating Junior Secretary to the Board of Revenue.

Mr. K. G. Gupta as Junior Secretary to the Board of Revenue.

The whole community of Bengal feels honoured by this appointment.

SANJIVANI.

59. The same paper says that Haripal, a village in the district of Hooghly, which was till lately an abode of peace, has, thanks to the Bengal Government, become the dancing ground of ghosts and demons. The human fiends who frequent the outstill at that place have become an object of dread in the locality. Their obscene songs cannot be heard without shame and disgust, and the outrages they occasionally commit upon women loudly call for redress. If the Government has established outstills in the country for the sake of revenue, let it impose a new tax for that purpose and abolish outstills altogether. In their anxiety to avoid the shocking evils of intemperance, the people of this country will make any amount of pecuniary sacrifice.

The outstill at Haripal in the district of Hooghly.

SANJIVANI.

60. The same paper says that an offence of the nature of that with which Mr. Beames has been charged once cost Mr. Blunt, a member of the Board of Revenue, his place in the Civil Service. Sir Steuart Bayley has given abundant proof of his respect for justice, and it is to be hoped that he will do justice in the present case, where the delinquent is a high official of Government.

Mr. Beames.

SANJIVANI.

61. A correspondent of the same paper protests against the order passed by the Postal Superintendent of Nuddea, at the instance of the Sub-Postmaster of Kumarkhali, for the removal of the local Post Office from its present site to some place within the compound of an old and now abandoned bazar. The reason assigned for this removal is that the present Post Office buildings are not spacious enough to accommodate the Postmaster's family. But in a case of this kind the convenience of the public should be first considered by a public officer, and the Superintendent has acted wrongly by giving preference to the interests of an individual. The writer ventures to say that the removal of the Post Office will be attended with great public inconvenience, and he therefore hopes that the Director-General of the Post Office will look to the matter.

The Kumarkhali Post Office.

62. The *Gramvasi*, of the 14th May, complains of the preparation of toddy by unlicensed vendors in the Uluberia sub-division. The police is in league with these men, and so toddy is being surreptitiously prepared throughout all the district. Cannot the local Deputy Magistrate devise means for putting down the evil?

Preparation of toddy without license in the Uluberia sub-division.

GRAMVASI,
May 14th, 1887.

63. The same paper says that as the custodian of the lives and properties of its people and as standing in the relation of a parent to its subjects, the Government ought not to carry on its nefarious trade in spirituous liquors. By engaging in this trade it is itself destroying the good which it has done to the country by establishing schools and colleges for the education of the people and law courts and other institutions for securing to them a full and unmolested enjoyment of life and property. This trade in spirituous liquors is wholly unworthy of a Christian Government.

The Government trade in spirituous liquors.

GRAMVASI.

64. The *Bangabasi*, of the 14th May, has heard that the Finance Committee has recommended the abolition of one District Superintendentship and nine Assistant Superintendentships of Police in Bengal. Many are

The Finance Committee.

BANGABASI,
May 14th, 1887.

of opinion that there is no necessity for entertaining Anglo-Indians in the Police service. It is contrary to the rules of good government to appoint Europeans when qualified natives are available. The number of qualified native Inspectors of Police may be safely increased by abolishing the post of Assistant Superintendent. Every impartial man will acknowledge that natives ought largely to be employed as District Superintendents of Police.

BANGABASI,
May 14th, 1887.

65. The same paper remarks that the present deplorable condition of the Police is chiefly owing to the want of a sufficient number of educated officers in it. The man who gives information of theft to the police is subjected to endless troubles

Mr. Pincott on the working of the Police in India.

and indignities. Innocent men are treated worse than criminals. The man whose property is stolen suffers more than the man who steals it. All this happens because there are not many gentlemanly officers in the police. But police oppression cannot be put an end to without first amending the criminal law of the country. The Magistrate's powers must be first curtailed. The Magistrate is the head of the district and the police is his faithful vassal. He is the judge and the police is the prosecutor. The police flourishes under the benign shelter of the Magistrate. With the separation of the judicial from the executive functions all this will of itself get rectified. The police should be related to the lower criminal courts in the same way as it is related to the Sessions Court. Mr. Pincott has also made enquiries regarding the taking of *dalis* by civilians. That practice, however, does not now prevail so largely as before. Still there are officers both in the Covenanted and in the Uncovenanted branch of the executive service who are only too glad to receive *dalis*. The writer has himself seen many high Anglo-Indian officials take costly *dalis* or presents at Christmas time. The fact is well known that many *zamindars* have been put to trouble for failing to send *dalis* to big officials. *Dalis* are also taken by some native Deputy Magistrates.

BANGABASI.

66. The same paper says that famine is impending in Tipperah. Sir Stuart Bayley is warned against the statements which are made on this subject in the *Englishman*, a newspaper, which first accuses the native press of the offence of falsifying facts and then goes on singing lullaby to Government. But will Sir Stuart Bayley sleep as his predecessor did on the occasion of the famine in Beerbhoom?

BANGABASI.

67. The same paper does not expect that the British Government will prohibit the use of spirituous liquors in this country, but it is clearly of opinion that it ought to raise the duty on such liquors. According to John Stuart Mill the duty on spirituous liquors should be made as high as possible. But Anglo-Indian statesmen disregard even so great an authority as John Stuart Mill; and they have therefore established the outstill system with the view of reducing the duty on spirituous liquors. This is the way the English rulers of this country are performing their sacred duty. In England Archdeacon Farrar is denouncing the Government of this country for teaching Bengalis to drink. But Mr. Buckland, late of the Bengal Civil Service, is endeavouring to vindicate Government by saying that only 60 lakhs out of the 6 crores of the Bengal population drink wine. It should be considered, however, that of this 6 crores, 3 crores and 60 lakhs are young children, and about $2\frac{1}{2}$ crores are adult and grown-up people. Of this $2\frac{1}{2}$ crores, the adult males cannot number more than a crore and twenty lakhs. Thus half the adult male population of Bengal use spirituous liquors. Horror of horrors! Surely Bengal is travelling fast on the highway to ruin!

BANGABASI
May 14th, 1887.

68. The same paper hears that on the retirement of Sir Auckland Colvin Mr. Barbour will be appointed Financial Member of the Governor-General's

Mr. Barbour as Finance Member.

Council. Mr. Barbour possesses a noble heart and vast and varied experience. His appointment as Financial Member will give universal satisfaction.

BANGABASI.

69. The same paper thinks that the explanation submitted by Mr.

Mr. Beames and the *Amrita Bazar Patrika*.

Beames should be published, and the editor of the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* should be at least furnished with a copy of it. The prestige of Government will not suffer in the least if this is done. On the contrary, such a course will be advantageous both to the Government and to Mr. Beames. If the charges preferred against Mr. Beames be true, he ought to be adequately punished, and people should be thus made to see that the professions of the Government are not at variance with its acts, and that laws are not intended for Indians alone, nor only for the inferior officers of Government. If Mr. Beames is proved innocent, the public will see that the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* has falsely libelled a high Government officer, and is therefore deserving of punishment; and in this way the confidence of the people in their Government will increase.

BANGABASI.

70. The same paper complains that India has to pay for a War

The waste of Indian money in England.

Secretary in the Office of the Commander-in-Chief of England. He is concerned

with military questions relating to England and her colonies, and has only now and then to dispose of similar questions in connection with India. Still India has to pay the whole of his salary. The mail steamers in the rivers Tigris and Euphrates, which do no useful work for either Native or Anglo-Indian merchants, are maintained with Indian money. India has to pay for the entertainment of an envoy in the Court of Persia either through fear of Russia or for some other unknown reason; and this makes it probable that England will in future make India pay any expenses which may have to be incurred by her in any part of the globe in order to keep out Russia. As India has to pay for England's establishments in China, she may some day be called upon to pay for the maintenance of England's establishments in the moon. There is a lunatic asylum in England in the town of Elling, which goes by the name of the Royal Indian Lunatic Asylum. Those English servants of Government in India who run mad are sent back to England at India's expense and are maintained in that country in this royal jail in a regal style. It is not clear why Rs. 1,000 has been expended in England in aid of the famine-stricken. The total of the foregoing items of expenditure is Rs. 25,25,300. Deducting from this Rs. 12,00,000 spent on legitimate objects, there remains Rs. 13,25,000 as clear waste. In 1884-85 the dresses for native soldiers cost India six lakhs and the dresses for European soldiers cost her twenty-eight lakhs. Most of these dress materials could be procured in India. Still they were imported from England; and so 10 lakhs out of this 34 lakhs must be regarded as having been wasted in this way. Mention may be made of hundreds of such instances in which Indian money is recklessly wasted.

BANGABASI.

71. A correspondent of the same paper complains of the oppression

The chowkidari tax at Batai-Shamnagore in Nuddea.

committed by the Collectors of the chowkidari tax at Batai-Shamnagore, a village in

Nuddea. The authorities have been repeatedly solicited to redress the grievances, but to no effect.

DACCA PRAKASH,
May 15th, 1887

72. The *Dacca Prakash*, of the 15th May, says that Sir Steuart

Sir Steuart Bayley's good acts.

Bayley has earned the gratitude of the people of this country by appointing Baboo

Brajendra Kumar Day to officiate as Magistrate of Furreedpore, and hopes that he will give permanence to the fame of that act by confirming Baboo Brajendra Kumar in that appointment. Sir Steuart Bayley's order stopping the proceedings in the Puri temple case has added to his reputation as a ruler ; and the great goodness of this act will be appreciated not only by the small class of educated men in this country, but by all the men and all the women of this wide land.

DAINIK,
May 15th, 1887.

73. The *Dainik*, of the 15th May, says that the civilian element predominates in the administration of India.

The civilian element in the administration of India.

With the exception of the Governor-General and the Governors of Madras and Bombay, all the high officers of Government are civilians. Thus, India is practically governed only by the civilians. They are the real kings of the country. It is generally found that the non-civilian officers of Government are better men than its civilian officers. Warren Hastings' Councillor, Mr. Francis, and Lord Ripon's Finance Minister, Sir Evelyn Baring, were not civilians. After Sir Evelyn Baring, a civilian got the Finance Ministership, and now it appears probable that Sir Auckland will be succeeded by his civilian Secretary. Thus, in time, the Finance Ministership is likely to become a monopoly of the civilians. Early protests should therefore be made against Mr. Barbour's appointment as Sir Auckland Colvin's successor. Civilians reign everywhere. They fill all important offices in the country. In the matter of the exercise of their powers these civilians are like so many Nawabs within their respective jurisdictions, and it is therefore no wonder that they really behave like the Nawabs of old. The reign of the civilians is, however, drawing to a close. The eyes of the natives of this country have at last been opened. For they have come to know that Englishmen govern India on principles which they would be the first to repudiate if they were applied to the administration of their own country.

NAVAVIBHAKAR
SADHARANI,
May 16th, 1887.

74. The *Navavibhakar Sadharani*, of the 16th May, says that English-

Englishmen and the poverty of India.

men point with pride to the increased export of wheat from India as a proof of the increased commercial prosperity of both England and India. But Englishmen should be made to see that it is absurd to boast of the increase of the trade of a country whose productiveness has not increased, and that unnatural exports like the export of wheat from India are simply impoverishing the country. Nowhere in India has the fertility of the soil increased. On the contrary, manure is being used as fuel more largely than before, and agricultural operations are not consequently well performed. Increase of trade under such circumstances cannot therefore be anything but delusive. Englishmen should be made to understand, and to feel that if they really want to increase their trade, they must increase the wealth of India by improving its agriculture, and that, weak and unarmed though Indians be, utter destitution may drive even them to disloyalty.

NAVAVIBHAKAR
SADHARANI.

75. The same paper says that the reason why Government stays

Bengalis and Government's residence in the hills.

away in the hills is not that more work is done there, but that the officials enjoy ease. It would have been an excuse for hill residence, if it could have been shown that any increase in the amount of work done there was commensurate with the expenditure incurred, but this has not been shown. If the officials had to go to and remain in the hills at their own expense, it would have been seen how long they would have remained there for the sake of doing more work. No one sees what good work Government has done by remaining in the hills. The Afghan war and the Burmese war have been conceived in the hills, and every one knows how very disastrous those wars have been. The Viceroy says that it is necessary for Government to reside in the hills in order to avoid Bengali

influence. The officials cannot cope with the intellectual power of Bengalis. The moral influence of Bengalis is also increasing. No wonder then that Government should fear Bengalis. But it is not advisable for a man to keep away from the thing he fears. It does not matter much whether Bengalis possess physical power or no. If they only possess intellectual and moral power they possess all that they need to. It was sheer moral power which enabled Bengalis to curb the indomitable indigo-planters. If Government enrolls natives as volunteers, well and good; if not, they will not concern themselves much about it. The officials have themselves admitted that they fear Bengalis. So, whatever the distance at which Government keeps itself, it will not be able to slight the intellectual and moral power of Bengalis.

76. The *Som Prakash*, of the 16th May, says that, by appointing Mr. K. G. Gupta as Junior Secretary to the Board of Revenue, Sir Steuart Bayley has earned the blessings of the entire population of Bengal.

SOM PRAKASH,
May 16th, 1887.

77. The same paper protests against the heavy and disproportionate fines which are imposed by Baboo Umacharn Das of the Calcutta Post Office on his subordinates. It is good to occasionally punish a subordinate for any shortcoming, but to fine him to the extent of a week's pay for comparatively trifling offences is hardly fair or justifiable, especially when the subordinate is a poor clerk on Rs. 30 or Rs. 40 a month. Mr. Alpin, the Baboo's predecessor in the office, was also in the habit of fining his subordinates; but his fines never exceeded more than one or two days' pay. There would have been little cause for complaint or commentary if these heavy fines had been imposed by an European officer. But as a Bengali, Baboo Uma Charan Das will do well to be more considerate in his dealings with his Bengali subordinates. That so good a man as Baboo Uma Charan should behave in the way here described is almost incredible.

SOM PRAKASH,

78. The same paper says that as manufactured sugar is considered impure by Hindus, Government should take steps to prevent it from being passed upon orthodox Hindus by the shop-keepers as indigenous sugar. Any shop-keeper attempting to deceive the Hindu public in this way should be severely punished.

SOM PRAKASH.

79. The *Dacca Gazette*, of the 16th May, says that, in order to preserve the good name of the Civil Service, Government ought to appoint a Committee to enquire into the charges preferred by the *Amrita Bazar* newspaper against Mr. Beames and to dismiss him from the service if he is found guilty. If Mr. Beames is proved innocent, as the writer hopes he is, the enquiry will only add to his good name.

DACCA GAZETTE,
May 16th, 1887.

80. The *Dainik*, of the 16th May, says that it may have been necessary to confer large executive powers on civilians in the early days of British rule in India. But as the country has now been fully brought under control, civilians ought to have smaller powers than before. The people of India have never been hostile to the English. The sepoy mutiny was a mutiny of the sepoys only, and not a mutiny of the people. The people of India have paid the tribute of loyalty and allegiance to Mahomedan Emperors and Nabobs, and they are now paying the same tribute to the English. They no longer require to be kept in check by oppressive civilians; and the time has come for curtailing civilian power. But it will not do to simply curtail the powers of the civilians. Their salaries must also be reduced. The scale of pay obtaining in other countries should be introduced into India.

DAINIK,
May 16th, 1887.

Foreigners no doubt require higher pay than natives, but there is no gain-saying that the present scale of pay of the civilians is too high. A sharp eye should be kept upon the conduct of the civilians. They are placed in situations which afford great temptations and facilities for committing acts of oppression. The provisions of the Criminal Procedure Code, which place arbitrary powers in their hands, should be amended. Government should see that its civilian officers perform their work in a truthful and righteous spirit. Civilians covenant with Government not to incur such pecuniary or other obligations as may make it difficult for them to perform their work impartially. But civilians do still incur such obligations. They take loans of elephants, horses, carriages, and palanquins, and live in houses without paying rent for them. These practices should be at once stopped. The people seek the favour and good will of civilians by giving them *dalis* and loans of animals and conveyances, because they are very powerful. The curtailment of their powers will therefore be necessary to put a stop to the practice of giving them presents.

URDU GUIDE,
May 16th, 1887.

Drunkenness in India.

81. The *Urdu Guide*, of the 16th May, says that the English have introduced drunkenness into India.

DAINIK,
May 18th, 1887.

82. The *Dainik*, of the 18th May, says that the practice which prevails amongst the civilian officers of Government in this country of taking *dalis*

Dalis. receives great countenance and encouragement from the acceptance of something like divine worship by Lieutenant-Governors and Commissioners of Divisions in the course of their tours of inspection in the mofussil. The Government of India ought to take effective steps for the purpose of putting down this mischievous practice.

IV.—NATIVE STATES.

SURABHI & PATAKA,
May 12th 1887.

83. The *Surabhi and Patáká*, of the 12th May, referring to the loan taken by the Government of India from the State of Gwalior, says that it is not good to

The Gwalior loan. borrow money from friends or acquaintances. It is also apparent, from the manner in which the late Maharaja Scindia hoarded his wealth, that His Highness had no intention to part with it or give a loan to the British Government. The Government has not consequently acted quite fairly in taking this loan from his minor son. Again, if the Maharaja, on attaining majority, incurs, for some reason or other, the displeasure of the Government of India, and is denied repayment of the loan, will the members of the Council of Regency stand guarantee for the money and accept the liability to repay it?

SAMAYA,
May 13th. 1887.

84. The *Samaya*, of the 13th May, referring to the loan which the Government of India and the Gwalior Council of Regency. Government has taken from the Gwalior Council of Regency, says that the Government

has never thought of repaying the money which it has from time to time taken from native princes. It always promises to pay interest on the money it takes from them; but those promises always remain unredeemed. Under these circumstances, the money which the Government has taken from Gwalior can hardly be called money borrowed. It is not also easy to see what object the Government had in view in taking this money from Gwalior. The English Government has by passing the Arms Act made the native princes perfectly helpless in the matter of defence, and to make their ruin complete in every respect it has entered on a new policy of impoverishing them by taking all their money. The seductive arts of Englishmen must have been made use of in the Gwalior State before it consented to part with its money. But not satisfied with this, the Government of

India proposes to raise a loan of six crores of rupees in this country. Verily, the Government means to reduce India to a state of insolvency by taking all her gold and silver and giving her in exchange a piece of paper or parchment; and yet Englishmen say that India's money is spent in India.

85. The *Dacca Gazette*, of the 16th May, refers to the enquiry made by the *Bombay Gazette* as to whether the rulers of Native States and the rulers of Native States in India have been compelled to be present in England at the time of the celebration of the Jubilee in that country, and says that it would not be proper to exact respect by force.

DACCA GAZETTE,
May 16th, 1887.

V.—PROSPECTS OF THE CROPS AND THE CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

86. The Hatikandi correspondent of the *Bangabási*, of the 14th May, complains of the outbreak of cholera at that place. Want of medical aid is much felt. The authorities should afford the necessary relief.

BANGABASI,
May 14th, 1887.

87. The special correspondent of the *Dacca Gazette* of the 16th May, referring to the scarcity in Tipperah, says that the real condition of the people in that district is much more serious than it is believed to be in Dacca or Calcutta. The scarcity is a scarcity not so much of food-grains as of money. Those who are not trusted by the money-lenders have been put to great distress. The Sub-divisional Officer of Brahmanberia is stated to have reported to Government that the people there will not suffer from famine even if the crops fail for three years more. But that officer's idea of a famine probably is that it means living on grass. In some villages men have been known to have committed suicide for want of food. The *boro*, *chena*, and *caon* crops are expected to yield a fair outturn; and but for this, many people would have died miserably. The state of things just now is less serious than it was a month ago. The widows and other poor women who generally live on the scanty earnings made by husking other people's paddy are now put to very serious straits because they are not getting paddy to husk. The officers of Government are not aware of the real condition of these poor widows. The people of the town of Brahmanberia and of the Sarail estate have not yet received any aid from Government, and their condition has therefore become really deplorable. In the village of Meroora a man has died of scarcity of food, and his wife and children are starving. The aid given by the municipality is wholly inadequate. A large sum of money is necessary to cope with the difficulty, and many lives will be lost if relief measures are not promptly adopted.

DACCA GAZETTE,
May 16th, 1887.

VI—MISCELLANEOUS.

88. The *Bháratbási*, of the 7th May, says that the members of the Indian Association, who waited upon Sir Stuart Bayley with an address of welcome, have been greatly struck by His Honour's affable manners and kind reply; and there can be no doubt that Sir Stuart will earn the gratitude of every section of the community if he conducts himself in this way. Sir Stuart's reply has also pleased the editors of vernacular newspapers. A Governor could not be expected to say anything more on such an occasion. In fact, what he has said has exceeded men's expectation.

BHARATBASÍ,
May 7th 1887.

CHARUVARTA,
May 9th, 1887.

Happiness of the people under
British rule.

89. The *Cháru Vártá*, of the 9th May, says that Englishmen measure the happiness of the Indian people under English rule by reference to three things, namely :—

1. The possession of metal utensils.
2. The use of spirituous liquors.
3. The use of European articles of luxury.

It should be clear, however, that conclusions drawn from such facts are liable to be erroneous. Luxury does not always mean happiness. One who has somehow or other acquired a taste for luxurious living will purchase materials for luxury even by incurring debt. To ascertain whether or no the people of this country are now enjoying happiness, Government should see (1) whether they can stand a famine; (2) whether they can purchase proper medical treatment in sickness; (3) whether they can maintain their families with ease. An enquiry made with reference to these points is sure to yield an unfavorable report. Let not Englishmen conclude that the people of India must be happy because they use satin cloths of English manufacture. The waist-coat of English pattern should not conceal the fact that the body it covers is a body wasted by ill-feeding. The people of this country have now no food in their stomachs, no money in their chest, and no means to satisfy the aspirations created in their souls by Englishmen. The people are weighted down with heavy taxes and the expenses of law courts. With outstretched hands and tearful eyes they protest that they are not happy.

CHARUVARTA.

90. The same paper states that unfavourable reports have been received regarding the conduct of the Deputy Magistrate of Tangail.

The Deputy Magistrate of Tangail.

SAHACHAR,
May 11th, 1887.

91. The Burdwan correspondent of the *Sahachar*, of the 11th May, disapproves of the action of the District Board of Burdwan in disallowing the proposal of the Local Board to contribute some money towards the construction of a public hall at Burdwan in commemoration of the Jubilee.

The District Boards of Burdwan
and a Jubilee hall.

SANJIVANI,
May 14th, 1887.

92. The *Sanjivani*, of the 14th May, says that the demonstration made by the people of Bombay in honour of their departing Chief Secretary, Sir David Wedderburn, ought to convince Anglo-Indians that natives feel deeply grateful to their real benefactors.

Sir David Wedderburn of Bombay.

SANJIVANI.

93. In an article on the case of Rukma Bai, the same paper asks Government to make it illegal to apply to Hindus the English law relating to the restitution of conjugal rights. That law is opposed to the spirit of the Hindu law. Government should also remit the sentence of imprisonment passed on Rukma Rai. In the year of the commemoration of the Jubilee of Her Imperial Majesty, women are surely entitled to some consideration.

Rukma Bai.

BANGABASI,
May 14th, 1887.

94. A correspondent of the *Bangabasi*, to the 14th May, complains of the ravages of tigers in Belpukur, a village in district Nuddea. The man-eaters have created quite a terror among the villagers.

Tigers at Belpukur in Nuddea.

BANGABASI.

95. The Satipara correspondent of the same paper complains of the ravages of tigers in the locality. The village ought to be cleared of its jungle.

Tigers at Satirpara-Narayungunge
in Dacca.

BANGABASI.

96. The Dighra correspondent of the same paper says that the dense jungle in that village is affording shelter to wild boars and tigers. This has made the villagers extremely uneasy.

Wild boars and tigers at Dighra in
Hooghly.

97. The *Dainik*, of the 15th May, disapproves of the action of the Prince of Wales in collecting and calling for subscriptions for commemorating the Jubilee in England. Subscriptions which are not voluntarily paid have no meaning, and it looks unbecoming in the Prince of Wales to practically extort loyalty-offerings for his mother. And the inexpediency and ungraciousness of the course the Prince is taking is placed beyond question when it is considered that even poor soldiers are being called upon to subscribe.

DAINIK,
May 15th, 1887.

URIYA PAPERS.

98. The *Samvadbāhikā*, of the 28th April, regrets to learn that the misunderstanding between Baboo Akhoy-narayan D-b, Manager of the Jarukunda estate in Balasore under the Court of Wards, and the tenants of that estate has become so serious that the catchery of that estate, where its records were kept, has been suddenly burnt down. This will lead to great confusion, as it will be very difficult to realise rents from ryots for want of accounts.

SAMVAD BAHIKA,
April 28th, 1887.

99. The *Utkaldīpikā*, of the 30th April, hears that it is proposed to abolish the Bernampore College of Ganjam, in the Madras Presidency, and remarks that, as the College is specially intended for the benefit of Uriyas, who inhabit the northern and backward districts of that Presidency, the Governor of Madras, it is to be hoped, will be induced to abandon the design for its abolition.

UTKAL DIPIKA,
April 30th, 1887.

100. The same paper gives a short account of the confusion which marked the Minor and Middle Vernacular Scholarship Examinations at the Ranpur centre, and attributes the same to the carelessness of the Joint-Inspector's office.

UTKAL DIPIKA.

101. The same paper, after commending Sir Steuart Bayley's intention to come to an amicable settlement with the Puri Rani in connection with the Puri Temple case, goes on to observe that His Honor should make an enquiry into the proceedings of the local officers, through whose imprudence and temerity the virtuous Rani has been put to ruinous expense, and mete out justice accordingly. All the newspapers of Orissa are in favour of an amicable settlement of the differences between the Government and the Puri Rani.

UTKAL DIPIKA.

102. The *Navasamvād*, of the 5th May, advocates the system of village panchayets and proposes to introduce the same at once into Orissa. In its opinion the village panchayet, if established, will be in a position to decide innumerable petty cases, and thereby save a large number of people from unnecessary expenses in Civil and Criminal Courts.

NAVASAMVAD,
May 5th 1887.

103. The *Sanskāraka*, of the 5th May, joins with its contemporaries of the *Utkaldīpikā* and *Navasamvād* in saying that the Income-tax Act should not have been extended to Angul, which is still treated as a Tributary State, and is therefore not a part of British Territory. When the natives of Angul after being taxed will compare their condition with that of the residents of the neighbouring States, where the tax is not levied, they will find ample reason to feel discontented and dissatisfied.

SANSKARAKA,
May 5th, 1887.

104. The same paper remarks that Babu Peary Mohun Sen, the Senior Deputy Inspector of Schools in Orissa, should have been made a member of the Orissa Text-book Committee.

SANSKARAKA.

BANSKARAKA,
May, 5th 1887.

Hindu and Muhammadan endowments.

105. The same paper writes as follows, in an article entitled the "Supervision and control of Hindu and Muhammadan endowments:"—

"The proceedings of the meetings of the Muhammadan Educational Endowments Committee, and the proceedings of Government in connection with the management of the Jagannath Temple at Puri, being contemporaneous, afford ample food for reflection, and suggest the advisability of the adoption of a good policy on the part of Government regarding the innumerable endowments, educational and religious, which have been bequeathed to the public by benevolent and public-spirited men.

The proceedings of the Muhammadan Educational Endowments Committee are before the public, and from a careful perusal of the same, it clearly appears that it is almost impossible to make any two important members of that Committee agree in matter-affecting the interests of the above endowments. The proceedings of Government in connection with the management of the Puri Temple are also before the public. Though a little indiscretion on the part of the officers entrusted with the management of that case put the Rani of Puri to ruinous expense, it is gratifying to find that matters have so far advanced as to induce Government to come to an amicable settlement with the Rani. Had the same course been followed when the Rani applied for it, she would not have been put to the subsequent troubles. We need not dilate upon the subject. We want to discuss the question in the abstract. What was the intention of Government in appointing the Educational Endowments Committee and in instituting a case against the Puri Rani. It was doubtless represented to Government, both by Hindu and Muhammadan gentleman, that some of the endowments, both Hindu and Muhammadan, were being mismanaged or frittered away or diverted to other objects by their *Trustees*, and Government thought it proper to adopt such measures for the removal of those evils as were suggested by their counsellors. The endowment of the Jagannath Temple, though a very rich one, is only one of many Hindu endowments. As the happiness of a large number of the Indian people depends on the good management of these endowments, it is necessary that the conduct of the *Trustees* in connection therewith should be carefully watched by the public.

"We believe that a very large number of the Hindu and Muhammadan endowments in India do not strictly carry out the objects for which they were founded. It matters little whether these endowments are educational, religious, or charitable. The very fact of their being *endowments founded for the benefit of particular communities*, makes it incumbent upon the Supreme Government to see that the *object* of the *founders* are faithfully and strictly carried out.

"It is not desirable—nay, it is impracticable—that Government should exercise *direct* control over the management of Hindu and Muhammadan endowments. The Hon'ble G. C. Paul, C.I.E., Advocate-General, and Mr. P. Nolan, Secretary to the Muhammadan Educational Endowments Committee, have clearly pointed this out. *Direct* control being objectionable, it remains to decide in what way can *indirect* control be exercised. The question is so very difficult that we cannot do justice to it in a single article. We are not aware of the deliberations of the Madras Branch of the Muhammadan Educational Committee, but the Hon'ble Members of the Calcutta Branch of the Committee seem unable to arrive at a satisfactory solution of the question. We do not approve of their proposal to separate *educational* from *charitable* and *religious* endowments. What is important is that Hindu and Muhammadan endowments of every description should be protected against the *actual* and possible encroachments of trustees and

managers. We can therefore, under the existing circumstances, recommend only some general and mild legislation, whose object will be to enable Government to exercise an *indirect control* over endowments through the High Courts and the local communities. If such legislation proves successful, and secures the desired object, the question of transferring all powers and control in connection therewith to District and Local Boards and to Village Unions will be only one of time."

CHUNDER NATH BOSE,

Bengali Translator.

BENGALI TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE,

The 21st May 1887.

